

LIQUOR ADVISORY BOARD
Wednesday, January 21, 2008
6:00 P.M. – City Council Chambers
Rockford City Hall, 425 East State Street

Present:

LAB Members: Alicia DiBenedetto Neubauer
Aaron Magdziarz
Craig Sockwell
Julio Salgado
Scott Sanders

Absent: Dan Roszkowski

Staff: Jessica Roberts, Planner II
Sandra Hawthorne – Administrative Assistant
Kerry Partridge, City Attorney
Frank Schmitt - Chief, Fire Prevention
Jon Hollander, Public Works

Others: Kathy Berg, Stenographer
Applicants and Interested Parties

The meeting started at 6:00 P.M. A **MOTION** was made by Aaron Magdziarz to **APPROVE** the minutes of the December 16, 2008 meeting as submitted. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Julio Delgado and **CARRIED** by a vote of 5-0 with Dan Roszkowski absent.

08-LAB-036

Applicant
Ward 11

902 9th Street

Donald & Sandra Stevens
Sale of liquor by the drink in conjunction with a tavern in
an I-1, Light Industrial District

The subject property is the Railroad Tap tavern, located on the southeast corner of Railroad and 9th Streets. Donald and Sandra Stevens, Applicants, reviewed their request for sale of liquor. They are entering into a five year lease agreement for this facility. Mr. Stevens explained they will have security cameras inside and outside of the building, as well as motion detectors. He explained their concept of having a “working man’s bar”. It is their intent to put in a full kitchen for sandwiches, etc. two or three months from getting established.

Julio Salgado asked how many parking spaces were available. Mr. Stevens stated there was a total of 9 parking spaces on the property, parking on both sides of Railroad Avenue, and parking on 9th Street. He reiterated the security system that will be inside and outside and the fact that activities will be recorded. If any problems do arise, Mr. Stevens stated he will be more than willing to hire any amount of security the City feels is necessary.

Staff Recommendation was for Approval with 3 conditions. No Objectors were present. One letter of objection was received from Allan and Cathy Barsema. The letter stated that they are the founders of Carpenter’s Place homeless outreach center operating at 1149 Railroad Avenue. They feel a tavern would not be a positive element for the neighborhood.

Alicia Neubauer inquired if landscaping would be required – Mr. Sanders pointed out that the building itself takes up almost of the lot, leaving no area for landscaping.

A **MOTION** was made by Craig Sockwell to **APPROVE** the sale of liquor by the drink in conjunction with a tavern in the name of Donald and Sandra Stevens d/b/a Railroad Tap in an I-1, Light Industrial District at 902 9th Street. The Motion was **SECONDED** by Aaron Magdziarz and **CARRIED** by a vote of 5-0, with Dan Roszkowski absent.

Approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. Compliance with the Liquor Ordinance
2. Business hours shall conform with the liquor code.
3. That there shall be no cover charge

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra A. Hawthorne
Administrative Assistant
Liquor Advisory Board